



Stc 9085



**CHARLES** by the grace of God, King of ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, FRANCE, and IRELAND, Defender of the Faith, &c.

To Our right trusty, and right welbeloued Cousin Mountioy, Earle of Newport, Master of Our Ordnance, and to the Master of Our Ordnance for the time being, and to all other Our Officers and Ministers whom it shall or may concerne, greeting. Whereas by Our Commission vnder Our great Seale of England, bearing date at Westminster, the eight day of March last, directed to Our now Commissioners for Our Admiraltie, and to the Commissioners for the said Admiraltie for the time being, We did declare that We had beene pleased to assume and take into Our owne hands, and for Our owne vse and benefit, all the Saltpeter, as well that which should be made within this Our Kingdome, and other Our Dominions, as that which should be imported into the same from forraine parts to be conuerted into Gunpowder, and were minded to sell, and distributed all such Gunpowder as was or should be made thereof, to such Our Subiects as for their vse and prouision should desire the same, ouer and aboue that which should be necessary for Our owne seruice. And did further, by the same Commission, giue vnto the said Commissioners, and to any three or more of them, full power and authoritie to giue warrant from time to time to the Master of Our Ordnance for the time being, and in his absence, to the Lieutenant, and the rest of the Officers of Our Ordnance for the time being, to issue, sell, and deliuer out of Our Stores to such persons as Our said then Commissioners for Our Admiraltie, or the Commissioners for Our Admiraltie for the time being, or any three or more of them, should from time to time direct such quantities or proportions of Gunpowder, as should be required or desired by any of Our Subiects for their vse and prouision, according to the good discretions of Our said Commissioners, or any three or more of them for the time being, the same Gunpowder to be sold and deliuered at the rate of one shilling six pence the pound, or at such other rates or prizes as we vnder Our hand from time to time should appoint and direct, as in and by Our said Commission more at large appeareth.

And Whereas in and by Our Proclamation for prohibiting the importation of forraine Gunpowder, and for supplying Our Subiects with Gunpowder for their vles out of Our Storehouses, bearing date at Our Palace of Westminster the twentieth day of February last: we upon the reasons therein declared, did signifie Our Royall Will and Pleasure to be, and did thereby straitly charge and command that no person or persons whatsoever, either Our naturall borne Subiects, Denizens, or Strangers, should at any time then after import, or bring, or cause to be imported or brought into Our Dominions of England, Wales, or Ireland, or any of them, or into any the Ports, Hauens, Creekes, or places thereof, any Gunpowder whatso-

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enter, then made, or then after to be made in any foraine parts or places, to be sold or put to sale here, upon paine of the forfeiture thereof: The same Gunpowder to be setzed to Our vse, and the moiety of the value thereof to be paid to such person or persons as should make seizure of the same, upon his or their deliuey thereof into Our Storehouse: And also upon paine of Our high indignation and displeasure, and such further penalties and punishments as might be inflicted on the Offenders for the contempt of Our Royall Commandement in that behalfe.

And to the intent that Our Subiects might from time to time be duly supplied with Powder, We out of Our Royall care in that behalfe, did declare and giue expresse order and command that Our Officers should be provided at all times thereafter, and should haue in their custodie in Our said Magazines or Storehouses sufficient quantities of Gunpowder, from whence Our Subiects should and might from time to time buy, and haue thereof by greater or lesser quantities at their pleasures, so much good and seruiceable Gunpowder as they or any of them should require for their necessary vse and expence, and the same to be there sold and deliuered vnto them at the rate and price of one shilling and six pence the pound, and not aboue, vntill we should be pleased to giue further order therein.

And to the end that the Retailers of Gunpowder might be limited to a moderate gaines therein, we did thereby declare Our Royall Will and Commandement to be, that no person or persons that then dealt, or thereafter should deale in retailing of Gunpowder, within the City of London and within thirty miles thereof, or within thirty miles of any Our Ports, should utter or sell the same aboue the rate or price of one shilling eight pence the pound; but for such Ports or places as should be thirty miles distant, or more, from London, or any Our said Ports, in such cases the said Retailers might sell the same at one shilling eight pence halfe peny the pound, and not aboue, which halfe peny increase of price was allowed for the land carpyage of the same Powder.

And we did thereby further declare Our expresse Will and Pleasure to be, and did straitly charge and command, That no person or persons whatsoever, other then our Makers of Gunpowder, who then had, or thereafter should be contracted with, should at any time or times thereafter, make, or cause to be made, any Gunpowder within any Our Dominions of England, Wales, or Ireland, or any of them, either by the vse of Handmills, or otherwise, upon paine of the forfeiture as well of the same Powder so made, as of the Engines or Instruments that should be vled thereabout, and to haue the same Mills to be demolished, and the Offenders therein to be further proceeded against in Our Court of Star-chamber, or otherwise punished according to their contempts and offences therein, as in and by Our said Proclamation more at large it doth appeare.

And whereas we haue beene informed of diuers indirect wayes and meanes which haue beene, or may be vled and practised, to hinder or disturbe the due setting and performace of this worke, so much importing Our Seruice, and the good and safety of Our Realmes: And finding amongst others, that a disorderly and promiscuous libertie to buy and receiue Powder from Our Magazine, to retails and sell againe without any choise or regulation, may giue aduantage and occasion to diuers Chandlers, and other euill disposed persons, for their priuate lucre and gaine, vnder colour and by aduantage of small quantities of Powder by them bought and provided from Our Magazines, to sell and utter further great quantities which they will or may furnish themselves withall, partly from such as will priuily import and conueigh the same into this Our Realme, in and by diuers obscure Creekes and places from foraine parts, partly from diuers Summers, and others, as shall withdraw or imbezell the same as well from Us, as from diuers Our Subiects: And considering that the best and the most effectuell way and meanes to preuent and discouer the said practises, and all other such like frauds and abuses, which may be deuised and put in vse in preiudice and disturbance of this seruice, will be as well by restraining the promiscuous buying of Gunpowder from Our Store or Magazine by any person, with intent to retails and sell the same againe, and by licensing such as shall be found fit and able for the same; and shall be willing, by good caution giuen for Our vse, to satisfie and secure Us touching their performace of such things as shall be thought needfull for Us to be secured of: As also by appointing and authorizing some speciall person of quality and trust, in Our seruice, to take care of, and looke to the due execution of Our Pleasure, in and by the said Proclamation expessed and declared; and to en-



And we doe further hereby declare Our expresse will and Pleasure to be, and doe straitly charge and command, that no person or persons whatsoever, other then such as shall be thereunto by you so licensed, shall be allowed, admitted, or suffered to buy and receive out of Our Tower of London, or out of any other Our Magazines or Storehouses appointed, or to be appointed for the keeping of any Gunpowder, for the supply of Us, and Our Subjects, any Gunpowder other then for their owne necessarie vse and expence, and not to be againe retailed by them, or sold to any person whatsoever: And that no person or persons whatsoever, not being licensed, as aforesaid, shall sell, vtter, or vend, or offer to put to sale, any Powder whatsoever, not being by him or them bought and provided, of, and from such person or persons as shall be licensed as aforesaid.

able him by all fitting wayes and meanes to giue Us satisfaction touching the same; Wee therefore reposing speciall trust and confidence in the approued wisdom, fidelitie, and circumspection of you the said Mountioy, Earle of Newport, Master of Our Ordnance in Our affaires, haue thought fit to intrust you with this Our seruice, and doe hereby giue full power and authority to you, to make choice of, licence and allow vnder your hand and seale, such persons as you shall thinke meet, to buy and receiue Gunpowder from any Our Magazines or Stores, to retaille or sell the same againe.

And we doe further hereby declare Our expresse will and Pleasure to be, and doe straitly charge and command, that no person or persons whatsoever, other then such as shall be thereunto by you so licensed, shall be allowed, admitted, or suffered to buy and receive out of Our Tower of London, or out of any other Our Magazines or Storehouses appointed, or to be appointed for the keeping of any Gunpowder, for the supply of Us, and Our Subjects, any Gunpowder other then for their owne necessarie vse and expence, and not to be againe retailed by them, or sold to any person whatsoever: And that no person or persons whatsoever, not being licensed, as aforesaid, shall sell, vtter, or vend, or offer to put to sale, any Powder whatsoever, not being by him or them bought and provided, of, and from such person or persons as shall be licensed as aforesaid.

And for the better Regulating such Retailing and Retailors of Gunpowder, as shall bee admitted and allowed to buy and receiue the same immediately out of Our Stores or Magazines, we doe hereby will and Command, that all and euery person so to be licensed, become first bound to Us in Our Office of Ordnance, with such Sureties, and in such summe, as you the said Master of the Ordnance shall thinke fit; That neither they, nor any of them, shall buy of, or sell to any person whatsoever, any Gunpowder brought in, or coming from any the parts beyond the Seas, or any Gunpowder whatsoever, other then such as shall be by them bought and receiued out of Our said Stores or Magazines: And that they, and euery of them, shall retaille, vend, and sell the same, at or vnder the respectiue prices aboue specified and limited in and by Our said Proclamation, and not aboue, till Our Pleasure shall be otherwise declared touching the said price: and to obserue and performe all and euery, or any such further, or other necessary Articles, matters, or things, as you the said Master of Our Ordnance shall iudge and deeme fit and reasonable, for the better execution and aduancement of this Our seruice.

And we doe further authorize and appoint you the said Master of Our Ordnance, and doe by these presents giue unto you full power and authority, to giue warrant from time to time to the present Lieutenant, and the rest of the Officers of Our Ordnance, and to the Lieutenant and the rest of Our Officers of Our Ordnance for the time being, to sell and deliuer vnto all and euery person or persons by you so to be licensed as aforesaid, and for the rates and prices already limited, or hereafter to be by Us appointed from time to time, all such quantities and proportions of Gunpowder, as shall be by them, or any of them required or desired, out of all such quantities of Gunpowder as now are and remaine, or hereafter shall be and remaine in Our Stores, at the Tower of London, or elsewhere, in or vnder the custodie or charge of Our said Officers, or any of them, ouer and aboue the proportion or quantity of One hundred and fifty Lasts of Gunpowder, which said quantity of One hundred and fifty Lasts of Gunpowder, Our will and Pleasure is, shall bee from time to time continued and upheld, as a constant proportion or Store of Gunpowder, alwayes in readinesse for Our owne Provision and Service.

And that all and euery sale and sales of Gunpowder, which shall bee made, issued, and deliuered to any of Our Subjects, either for their owne vse or expence, by warrant from the said Commissioners of Our Admiralty, or to any other the said licensed persons, to be retailed, and sold again by warrant from you the said Master of Our Ordnance, shall be made and deliuered only out of all such quantities or ouerplus of Gunpowder, and none other, as now are, or from time to time shall be, and remaine, in Our said Stores, at the Tower of London, or elsewhere, ouer and aboue the said quantity or proportion of One hundred and fifty Lasts of Gunpowder, appointed for Our constant & permanent Store of Gunpowder, as aforesaid, and for your and their so doing, these Our Letters Patents shall bee as well vnto you, the said Master of Our Ordnance, as vnto Our said now Lieutenant, and the rest of the Officers of Our Ordnance



and vnto the Lieutenant, and the Officers of Our Ordnance for the time being, a sufficient warrant and discharge in that behalfe : And of this Our proportion of Gunpowder by Us appointed and limited, to bee constantly remaining in Our Stores, without being issued or abated, otherwise then for Our owne service and expence, Our further will is, that Our Commissioners for Our Admiralty now being, and which hereafter for the time shall bee, doe take knowledge and due care to proceed therein accordingly. And to the end, Our said Commissioners for Our Admiralty from time to time may vnderstand the true state of Our Stores of Gunpowder, and what quantities or proportions of Gunpowder now are or shall from time to time be & remaine in Our said Stores or Magazines, at the said Tower, or elsewhere, Our further will and Pleasure is, and we hereby require you the Master of Our Ordnance, and the Master of Our Ordnance for the time being, and Our Lieutenant, and the Officers of Our Ordnance, now, and for the time being, to make and deliuer true Certificates from time to time, to Our Commissioners for Our Admiralty for the time being, as well of all such proportions and quantities of Gunpowder, as shall from time to time be issued out of Our said Stores, as what shall bee there remaining, when, and so often, as you shall bee by warrant from Our said Commissioners, or any three, or more of them, thereunto required : And to the end, that all frauds, abuses, contempes, and offences, which may be devised or committed in prejudice of this Our service, or in contempt of any the Commands of Us declared in the said Proclamation, or in these presents, may be prevented or discovered, and the offenders and delinquents therein proceeded against and punished ;

Our further will and Pleasure is, and we doe by these presents, giue and grant vnto you the said Master of Our Ordnance, full power and authority, to nominate, constitute, and appoint, and to giue warrant vnto one or more such person or persons, as you shall thinke meet, at lawfull times, and in lawfull and conuenient manner, to enter into, and make search, in all, euery, or any Ships, Vessels, Houses, Shops, Ware-houses, Cellars, Garrets, Closets, Roomes and places whatsoever, for all Gunpowder imported or brought from any the parts beyond the Seas, into Our Realme of England, and Dominion of Wales, or into any the Ports or places thereof, to be sold, or put to sale, contrary, or in contempt of any the Prohibitions and Commands in the said Proclamation, or in these presents, or any other Our Proclamation published concerning the premises, or any of them ; And the said Gunpowder to arrest and seize to Our use ; And all, and euery offender, or offenders, in any the premises, in Our name to sue and informe against in Our Court of Star-chamber, or Exchequer, or either of them, and in any other Our Courts at Westminster whatsoever, and the same to prosecute, and bring to Judgement, Sentence, or Censure, in any of Our said Courts respectiue ; And thereupon to sue for, recover, and haue execution for Our use and benefit, of, and for all, and for all and euery such Fines, Forfeitures, Penalties, Summe, and Summes of money whatsoever, as by any such Judgement, Sentence, or Censure, in any of Our said Courts respectiue, shall be iudged, imposed, or set, or shall bee due, or appertaine to Us, by reason of any the said Offences or Contempes, as well by lute or lutes to be commenced, and by due proceeding in Law, as otherwise, thereupon had, as also by euery such other lawfull wayes, meanes, or remedy whatsoever, as we may, or might lawfully haue or vse, against any person or persons, or otherwise, for the leuying or recouering thereof, or any part thereof, either in Our Courts of Starre-chamber & Exchequer, or in any other Courts of Record within this Our Realme : And to the intent, that you, the said Master of Our Ordnance, and such person or persons as shall be by you authorized, deputed, and appointed, may the better finde out and discouer the Frauds and Offences, in, or concerning the premises, we doe hereby grant vnto you, the said Master of Our Ordnance, or such person or persons authorized or appointed, as foresaid, and euery of you, full power and authority from time to time to take forth ; And we doe hereby will and require the Lord Chancello, or Lord Keeper of Our great Seale of England, for the time being, the Treasurer, Chancello, Under-Treasurer, and Barons of Our said Exchequer, and all and singular Officers and Ministers of Our Courts of Star-chamber and Exchequer, and either of the said Courts, respectiue for the time being, and of all other Our Courts, to whom it shall or may appertaine, from time to time to cause to be made forth of the said Courts respectiue, such, and so many Commissions, writs, and other Processe, as shall be requisite or required by you the said Master of Our Ordnance, or such person or persons authorized or ap-



pointed as aforesaid, for the better finding out, revealing, discovering, leuying, and recovering of any of the said Frauds and Offences, or of any of the said Fines, Penalties, Forfeitures, or Summes of money, for the seizing and extending of any Lands or Goods, of any the said Offender or Offenders, person or persons liable to the payment or answering of the same, or any of them, and in all things to be favouring, ayding, and assisting to you the said Master of Our Ordnance, and such person and persons, authorized and appointed, as aforesaid in the premises, as they tender Our service herein: And for doing thereof, these Our Letters Patents, or the enrolment of them, shall bee their, and every of their sufficient warrant and discharge: And for reward & recompence of the labour, travell and charge of such person and persons as shall by you be authorized or appointed as aforesaid, to vse or imploy their time, industry or labour in this Our service, and for encouragement, as well of them, as of all and every other person and persons, to discover Offences and Offenders in the premises, wee doe hereby give Power and Authority to you, to appoint and allow vnto all and every person and persons imployed, or to be imployed by you the Master of Our Ordnance, in, and about the premises, such part or portion of the said Seizures, Fines, and Forfeitures, as you shall thinke meet, for the reward & recompence of their service, so as the same doe not exceed one moiety of the value of all Powder that shall be by them seized and deliuered into Our said Stores, or one moiety of the Fines & Forfeitures accruing to Us by the Premises, as aforesaid: And so as the other full moiety thereof be reserved to Us, Our Heires, and Successors: And these Presents, or the Inrolment thereof, shall be as well vnto you the said Master of Our Ordnance, for the making and appointing thereof, as likewise to Our Treasurer, Chancellor, and vnder-Treasurer of Our Exchequer, now, and for the time being, and to all other Our Officers to whom it shall or may appertaine, to make, or cause to be made, any such deliuey or payment, a sufficient warrant, exoneration, and discharge in that behalfe.

And wee doe hereby charge and command, as well all and every the Officers and Ministers of Our Admiralty, and Cinque-ports, and of our Customes within all and every Ports and Havens of Our Realme of England, and Dominion of Wales, and all Mayors, Sheriffes, Bayliffes, Justices of the peace, Constables, Head-boroughs, Tithing-men, and all other Our Officers, Ministers, and loving Subiects, within Our said Realme and Dominion, to whom it shall or may respectively appertaine; That they, and every of them, at all times hereafter, and from time to time be aiding and assisting, as well vnto you the said Master of Our Ordnance, as likewise vnto all and every such person or persons so by you to be authorized and appointed as aforesaid, for the making of any search, or doing of any thing touching this Our service.

Nevertheless Our intent and meaning is, that these Presents, or any thing therein contained, shall not extend to restraine Our Commissioners for Our Admiralty for the time being, for deliuey of Gunpowder of any Our Magazines or Store-houses as aforesaid, to any Merchants or others, for their owne provisions or vse, so as such Merchants, or other persons, doe not directly or indirectly vend or vtter the same Powder againe by retails, or otherwise, contrary to the tenour of these Presents.

In witnesse whereof wee have caused these Our Letters to bee made Patents: Witnesse Our selfe at Westminster, the Five and Twentieth day of Aprill, in the Thirteenth yeare of Our Reigne.